The Report of the Excise Committee.

257. Dr. A. G. Menon.—Will the Government be pleased to state whether the Excise Committee has submitted its Report on the Excise policy of the Government ; if so,

(i) whether the Government has passed orders on it ;

(ii) will the Government be pleased to place them on the table?

Mr. A. K. Vengu Ayyar.—The Report has not yet been submitted to the Government.

Reports of the Excise and Special Finance Committees.

258. Mr. K. T. Mathew.—Will the Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Report of the Excise Committee appointed by the Government in deference to the wishes of the Members of the Legislative Council be made available for discussion in the Legislative Council, as was done in Madras, before our Government passes orders on it ; and

(b) whether the Report of the Special Finance Committee appointed at the request of the non-official Members of the Legislative Council will also be submitted to the Legislative Council for discussion, and if the answers to question (a) and (b) are in the negative, to give the reason for not submitting them to the discussion in the Council?

Mr. A. K. Vengu Ayyar.—(a) and (b). The point will be considered when the Reports in question are received by the Government.

The vacation of seats in the Special Finance and Excise Committees.

259. Mr. K. T. Mathew.—With reference to the Special Finance Committee and the Excise Advisory Committee, will the Government be pleased to state whether a member of either of these Committees will not lose his seat, if he does not attend a number of meetings consecutively, and if the answer is that the seat will be declared to be lost, from how many consecutive meetings shall he be absent to be deemed to have lost his seat?

Mr. A. K. Vengu Ayyar.—This is a hypothetical case in regard to which the Government consider it unnecessary to furnish an answer.

The expenditure on important works.

260. Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—Will the Government be pleased to state—

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